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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of  
Rudolf BUCK et al.

New York, New York

Date: May 5, 1998

Serial No.: 09/023,435

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: February 13, 1998

Examiner:

For: TWIN WIRE FORMER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

1. A method for the production of a paper web from a fiber suspension in a twin wire former comprising:

causing first and second web forming wire belts to travel along a path together to form a twin wire zone of the twin wire former, with the web between the wire belts as the wire belts travel along the path through the twin wire zone, each wire belt forming an endless loop;

feeding the wire belts across a single forming roll at the start of the path through the twin wire zone;

supporting the wire belts such as to form a wedge shaped entrance slot into the twin wire zone;

supplying a fiber suspension from a headbox directly to the wedge shaped entrance slot of the twin wire zone;

draining water from the fiber suspension by means of the forming roll in order to (form) the web from the fiber suspension;

*start the forming of*